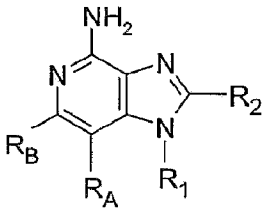
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the Application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently amended) A compound of the formula(II):

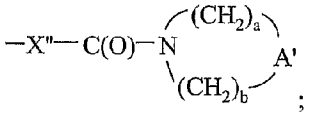


II

wherein:

R_1 is selected from the group consisting of:

$-X'-C(O)-N(R_1')(R_1'')$ and



;

X' is selected from the group consisting of $-CH(R_9)-$, $-CH(R_9)$-alkylene-, and $-CH(R_9)$-alkenylene-;

X" is selected from the group consisting of $-CH(R_9)-$, $-CH(R_9)$-alkylene-, and $-CH(R_9)$-alkenylene-; wherein the alkylene and alkenylene are optionally interrupted with one or more -O- groups;

R_1' and R_1'' are independently selected from the group consisting of:

hydrogen,

alkyl, and

~~alkenyl,~~

aryl~~,~~

~~arylalkylenyl,~~

~~heteroaryl,~~

~~heteroarylalkylenyl,~~

~~heterocyclyl,~~

~~heterocyclylalkylenyl, and~~

~~alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, arylalkylenyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkylenyl, heterocyclyl, or heterocyclylalkylenyl, substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of:~~

~~hydroxy,~~

~~alkyl,~~

~~haloalkyl,~~

~~hydroxyalkyl,~~

~~alkoxy,~~

~~haloalkoxy,~~

~~halogen,~~

~~cyano,~~

~~nitro,~~

~~amino,~~

~~alkylamino,~~

~~dialkylamino,~~

~~arylsulfonyl, and~~

~~alkylsulfonyl~~;

A' is selected from the group consisting of -O-, -C(O)-, $-CH_2-$,$-S(O)_{0-2}-$, and $-N(Q-R_4)-$;

a and b are independently integers from 1 to 6 with the proviso that a + b is ≤ 7;

R_A and R_B are taken together to form either a fused aryl ring that is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more R_a groups, or a fused 6-membered saturated ring that is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more R_c groups;

R_a is selected from the group consisting of :

halogen,

alkyl,

haloalkyl,

alkoxy, and

$-N(R_9)_2$;

R_c is selected from the group consisting of:

halogen,

hydroxy,

alkyl,

alkenyl,

haloalkyl,

alkoxy,

alkylthio, and

$-N(R_9)_2$;

R_2 is selected from the group consisting of [[:]] hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxyalkyl, and hydroxyalkyl;

R_4 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, arylalkylenyl, aryloxyalkylenyl, alkylarylenyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkylenyl, heteroaryloxyalkylenyl, alkylheteroarylenyl, and heterocyclyl wherein the alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, arylalkylenyl, aryloxyalkylenyl, alkylarylenyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkylenyl, heteroaryloxyalkylenyl, alkylheteroarylenyl, and heterocyclyl groups are unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkoxy, hydroxyalkyl, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, halogen, nitro, hydroxy, mercapto, cyano, aryl, aryloxy, arylalkyleneoxy, heteroaryl, heteroaryloxy, heteroarylalkyleneoxy, heterocyclyl, amino, alkylamino, dialkylamino, (dialkylamino) alkyleneoxy, and in the case of alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, and heterocyclyl, oxo;

R_6 is selected from the group consisting of =O and =S;

R_8 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxyalkylenyl, and arylalkylenyl;

R_9 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl;

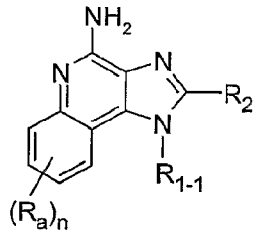
Q is selected from the group consisting of a bond, $-C(R_6)-$, $-C(R_6)-C(R_6)-$, $-S(O)_2-$, $-C(R_6)-N(R_8)-W-$, $-S(O)_2-N(R_8)-$, $-C(R_6)-O-$, and $-C(R_6)-N(OR_9)-$; and

W is selected from the group consisting of a bond, -C(O)-, and $-S(O)_2-$;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently amended) A compound of the formula (IV):

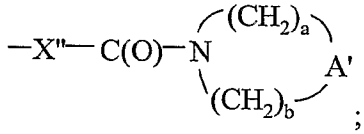


IV

wherein :

R_{1-1} is selected from the group consisting of:

$-X'-C(O)-N(R_1')(R_1'')$ and



;

X' is selected from the group consisting of $-CH(R_9)-$, $-CH(R_9)$-alkylene-, and $-CH(R_9)$-alkenylene-;

X" is selected from the group consisting of-$CH(R_9)-$, $-CH(R_9)$-alkylene-, and $-CH(R_9)$-alkenylene-; wherein the alkylene and alkenylene are optionally interrupted with one or more -O- groups;

R_1' and R_1'' are independently selected from the group consisting of:

hydrogen,

alkyl, and

~~alkenyl,~~

aryl,

~~arylalkylenyl,~~

~~heteroaryl,~~

~~heteroarylalkylenyl,~~

~~heterocyclyl,~~

~~heterocyclylalkylenyl, and~~

~~alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, arylalkylenyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkylenyl, heterocyclyl, or heterocyclylalkylenyl, substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of:~~

~~hydroxy,~~

~~alkyl,~~

~~haloalkyl,~~

~~hydroxyalkyl,~~

~~alkoxy,~~

~~haloalkoxy,~~

~~halogen,~~

~~cyano,~~

~~nitro,~~

~~amino,~~

~~alkylamino,~~

~~dialkylamino,~~

~~arylsulfonyl, and~~

~~alkylsulfonyl~~ ;

A' is selected from the group consisting of -O-,-C(O)-, $-CH_2-$, $-S(O)_{0-2}-$, and $-N(Q-R_4)-$;

a and b are independently integers from 1 to 6 with the proviso that a + b is ≤ 7;

R_a is selected from the group consisting of:

halogen,

alkyl,

haloalkyl,

alkoxy, and

$-N(R_9)_2$

n is an integer from 0 to 4;

R_2 is selected from the group consisting of [[:]] hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxyalkyl, and hydroxyalkyl;

R_4 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, arylalkylenyl, aryloxyalkylenyl, alkylarylenyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkylenyl, heteroaryloxyalkylenyl, alkylheteroarylenyl, and heterocyclyl wherein the alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, arylalkylenyl, aryloxyalkylenyl, alkylarylenyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkylenyl, heteroaryloxyalkylenyl, alkylheteroarylenyl, and heterocyclyl groups are unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkoxy, hydroxyalkyl, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, halogen, nitro, hydroxy, mercapto, cyano, aryl, aryloxy, arylalkyleneoxy, heteroaryl, heteroaryloxy, heteroarylalkyleneoxy, heterocyclyl, amino, alkylamino, dialkylamino, (dialkylamino) alkyleneoxy, and in the case of alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, and heterocyclyl, oxo;

R_6 is selected from the group consisting of =O and =S;

R_8 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxyalkylenyl, and arylalkylenyl;

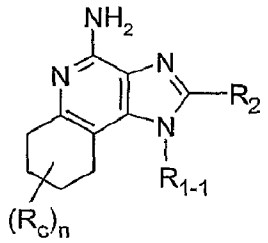
R_9 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl; ~~and~~

Q is selected from the group consisting of a bond, $-C(R_6)-$, $-C(R_6)-C(R_6)-$, $-S(O)_2-$, $-C(R_6)-N(R_8)-W-$, $-S(O_2-N(R_8)-$, $-C(R_6)-O-$, and $-C(R_6)-N(OR_9)-$; and

W is selected from the group consisting of a bond, -C(O)-, and $-S(O)_2-$;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5. (Currently amended) The compound or salt of claim 2 wherein the compound is of the following formula (V):

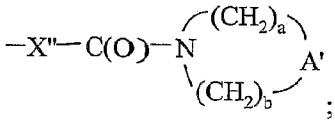


V

wherein:

$R_{1\text{-}1}$ is selected from the group consisting of:

-X'-C(O)-N(R_1')(R_1") and



;

X' is selected from the group consisting of -CH(R_9)-, -CH(R_9)-alkylene-, and -CH(R_9)-alkenylene-;

X" is selected from the group consisting of -CH(R_9)-, -CH(R_9)-alkylene-, and –CH(R_9)-alkenylene-; wherein the alkylene and alkenylene are optionally interrupted with one or more -O- groups;

R_1' and R_1" are independently selected from the group consisting of:

hydrogen,

alkyl, and

~~alkenyl,~~

aryl~~,~~

~~arylalkylenyl,~~

~~heteroaryl,~~

~~heteroarylalkylenyl,~~

~~heterocyclyl,~~

~~heterocyclylalkylenyl, and~~

~~alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, arylalkylenyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkylenyl, heterocyclyl, or heterocyclylalkylenyl, substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of:~~

~~hydroxy,~~

~~alkyl,~~

~~haloalkyl,~~

~~hydroxyalkyl,~~

~~alkoxy,~~

~~haloalkoxy,~~

~~halogen,~~

~~cyano,~~

~~nitro,~~

~~amino,~~

~~alkylamino,~~

~~dialkylamino,~~

~~arylsulfonyl, and~~

~~alkylsulfonyl~~;

A' is selected from the group consisting of -O-, -C(O)-, $-CH_2-$, $-S(O)_{0-2}-$, and $-N(Q-R_4)-$;

a and b are independently integers from 1 to 6 with the proviso that a + b is ≤ 7;

R_c is selected from the group consisting of:

halogen,

hydroxy,

alkyl,

alkenyl,

haloalkyl,

alkoxy,

alkylthio, and

$-N(R_9)_2$;

n is an integer from 0 to 4;

R_2 is selected from the group consisting of [[:]] hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxyalkyl, and hydroxyalkyl;

R_4 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, arylalkylenyl, aryloxyalkylenyl, alkylarylenyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkylenyl, heteroaryloxyalkylenyl, alkylheteroarylenyl, and heterocyclyl wherein the alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, arylalkylenyl, aryloxyalkylenyl, alkylarylenyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkylenyl, heteroaryloxyalkylenyl, alkylheteroarylenyl, and heterocyclyl groups are unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkoxy, hydroxyalkyl, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, halogen, nitro, hydroxy, mercapto, cyano, aryl, aryloxy, arylalkyleneoxy, heteroaryl, heteroaryloxy, heteroarylalkyleneoxy, heterocyclyl, amino, alkylamino, dialkylamino, (dialkylamino) alkyleneoxy, and in the case of alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, and heterocyclyl, oxo;

R_6 is selected from the group consisting of =O and =S;

R_8 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxyalkylenyl, and arylalkylenyl;

R_9 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl; ~~and~~

Q is selected from the group consisting of a bond, $-C(R_6)-$, $-C(R_6)-C(R_6)-$, $-S(O)_2-$, $-C(R_6)-N(R_8)-W-$, $-S(O)_2-N(R_8)-$, $-C(R_6)-O-$, and $-C(R_6)-N(OR_9)-$; and

W is selected from the group consisting of a bond, -C(O)-, and $-S(O)_2$;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

6.-11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously presented) The compound or salt of claim 4 wherein n is 0.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously presented) The compound or salt of claim 2 wherein X' is $-CH_2-C_{0-10}$ alkylene- or X" is $-CH_2-C_{0-10}$ alkylene- or $-CH_2-C_{1-4}$ alkylene-O-C_{1-4} alkylene-.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously presented) The compound or salt of claim 14 wherein X' is $-(CH_2)_{1-5}-$, $-CH_2C(CH_3)_2-$, or $-CH_2C(CH_3)_2CH_2-$; or X" is $-(CH_2)_{1-5}-$, $-CH_2C(CH_3)_2-$, $-CH_2C(CH_3)_2CH_2-$, or $-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_2-$.

17.-25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously presented) The compound or salt of claim 2 wherein R_1 is hydrogen.

27. (Previously presented) The compound or salt of claim 26 wherein R_1' is hydrogen or C_{1-3} alkyl.

28. (Previously presented) The compound or salt of claim 27 wherein R_1' and R_1'' are hydrogen.

29.-30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously presented) The compound or salt of claim 2 wherein R_2 is hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, hydroxy C_{1-4} alkylenyl, or C_{1-4} alkyl-O-C_{1-4} alkylenyl.

32. (Canceled)

33. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound or salt of claim 2 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

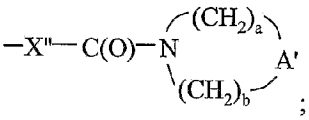
34. (Withdrawn) A method of inducing cytokine biosynthesis in an animal comprising administering an effective amount of a compound or salt of claim 2 to the animal.

35. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a viral disease in an animal in need thereof comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound or salt of claim 2 to the animal.

36. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a neoplastic disease in an animal in need thereof comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound or salt of claim 2 to the animal.

37.-44. (Canceled)

45. (Previously presented) The compound or salt of claim 4 wherein R_{1-1} is



, A' is -O-, and a and b are each 2.

46. (Previously presented) The compound or salt of claim 4 wherein X is $-CH_2-C_{0-10}$ alkylene- or X" is $-CH_2-C_{0-10}$ alkylene- or $-CH_2-C_{1-4}$alkylene-O-C_{1-4} alkylene-.

47. (Previously presented) The compound or salt of claim 46 wherein X is $-(CH_2)_{1-5}-$, $-CH_2C(CH_3)_2-$, or $-CH_2C(CH_3)_2CH_2-$; or X" is $-(CH_2)_{1-5}-$, $-CH_2C(CH_3)_2-$, $-CH_2C(CH_3)_2CH_2-$, or $-(CH_2)_3-CH_2-$.

48. (Previously presented) The compound or salt of claim 4 wherein R_1 is hydrogen.

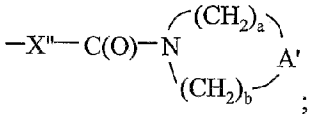
49. (Previously presented) The compound or salt of claim 48 wherein R_1 is hydrogen or C_{1-3} alkyl.

50. (Previously presented) The compound or salt of claim 49 wherein R_1' and R_1" are hydrogen.

51. (Previously presented) The compound or salt of claim 4 wherein R_2 is hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, hydroxy C_{1-4} alkylenyl, or C_{1-4} alkyl-O-C_{1-4} alkylenyl.

52. (Canceled)

53. (Previously presented) The compound or salt of claim 5 wherein R_{1-1} is



, A' is -O-, and a and b are each 2.

54. (Previously presented) The compound or salt of claim 5 wherein X is -CH_2-C_{0-10} alkylene- or X" is -CH_2-C_{0-10} alkylene- or -CH_2-C_{1-4} alkylene-O-C_{1-4} alkylene-.

55. (Previously presented) The compound or salt of claim 5 wherein R_1" is hydrogen.

56. (Previously presented) The compound or salt of claim 55 wherein R_1' is hydrogen or C_{1-3} alkyl.

57. (Previously presented) The compound or salt of claim 56 wherein R_1' and R_1" are hydrogen.

58. (Previously presented) The compound or salt of claim 5 wherein R_2 is hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-4} alkylenyl, or C_{1-4} alkyl-O-C_{1-4} alkylenyl.

59.-63. (Canceled)

64. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound or salt of claim 4 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

65. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound or salt of claim 5 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

66.-67. (Canceled)

68. (Withdrawn) A method of inducing cytokine biosynthesis in an animal comprising administering an effective amount of a compound or salt of claim 4 to the animal.

69. (Withdrawn) A method of inducing cytokine biosynthesis in an animal comprising administering an effective amount of a compound or salt of claim 5 to the animal.

70. (Canceled)